

20th March 2024; Auchenblae Parks Committee response to:

Public Representations : Survey Report for 04 February 2021 to 13 March 2024

Objection #1

As there are only 2 options its therefore necessary to object. Main reasons are as follows 1. Lack of detail in the application and as the building is attached to our shared wall its quite important to understand what is being proposed. 2. Our last experience of the council allowing community projects (James Taylor Statue) was a complete nightmare and remains a big problem. Damage to our property was highlighted at the time of erection and no action was ever taken. We now have a poorly looked after statue with kids often hanging around making noise right next to us I would actually be keen to purchase the toilets and the associated land around/next to it if the council have interest in selling, If that were possible I would also work with the community to help attain some of their goals as outlined in this application.

Response

The primary objective is to provide a toilet to satisfy the public demand in Auchenblae. The business plan will outline the detail, with any modifications/changes in line with all criteria set out in the planning process. The building is structurally sound and in good condition internally, which minimises the potential for any work affecting neighbouring properties. The fundamental guiding principle of this project is to benefit the community as a whole.

The aforementioned project was not executed by the Auchenblae Parks Committee, therefore we are unaware of the problems with the display. The area is not part of the Community Asset Transfer proposal which firmly constitutes the former public toilet building only, and not the surrounding area.

Objection #2

Fully support if the building is adopted under community transfer to use as public toilets with male and female separated access. NOT as one toilet for both and utilising the rest of the building for storage use.

We only support this application for toilets To reopen and not for storage. Also, should be Male and Female toilets. Not unisex toilets. Must be Male and Female separate toilets

Response

We have taken on board these comments and the business plan will be now have the primary objective of providing a toilet to satisfy the public demand in Auchenblae. To maximise the potential for success in this project we believe that a multi-functional toilet will increase the inclusivity of the project. For example, opening one modern unisex / disabled / baby changing facility will maximise the outreach and minimise the cost, thus ensuring the sustainability of the facility. A recent survey by the UK Government demonstrates that this type of approach has the support of the vast majority, and we believe that getting one toilet open is a significant first step.

By opening one toilet it will ensure that the renovation project is simpler and has the potential for future projects to benefit the community (this could include the re-opening of the facility fully for toilets should that be within the operational budget envelope). The main reasons that we are keeping it simple is primarily because the day-to-day operation, repair and maintenance will be self-funded through the Auchenblae Parks Committee and we want to minimise cleaning costs, consumables costs and to ensure that the energy profile of the building is as green as possible.